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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/601,828	06/23/2003	Guo Rui Deng		9067

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Guo Rui Deng
Xia Kou Industry District,
Dong Cheng Area
Dongguan,
CHINA

EXAMINER

DEXTER, CLARK F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3724

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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02/21/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/601,828

Applicant(s)

DENG ET AL.

Examiner

Clark F. Dexter

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 April 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,17-19,33-49 and 51-53 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 33-35,37-39,41,42 and 51-53 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,17-19,36,40 and 43-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The response filed on April 23, 2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102/103

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Art Unit: 3724

4. Claims 1, 18, 19, 40, 45-47 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Sarka et al., pn 3,863,550 or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Sarka et al., pn 3,863,550 in view of Beroz et al., pn 6,543,131.

Sarka discloses an apparatus (e.g., in Fig. 11) with every structural limitation of the claimed invention including at least one metal base portion/metal plate (e.g., 2), at least one metal blade (e.g., 15) having at least one exposed cutting edge (e.g., 17), and a covering/housing/adaptor (e.g., 21, 22). Further, Sarka meets the newly added limitation of "fixedly attaching" in that when the plastic filler material is injected to fill the space and then cured as described (e.g., see col. 4, lines 2-13), the inner assembly will become stuck or held in place within the fixture and thus "fixedly attached to" the fixture, whereby a force will be necessary to remove the assembly from the fixture. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the added limitations "such that said covering translates pressing force applied thereon to be more uniformly applied at the at least one cutting edge along an edge of said at least one blade" does not clearly imply any additional structure but rather merely describes an intended use of the device shown in Fig. 11 of Sarka.

In the alternative, if it is argued that there is no explicit disclosure that the assembly will become fixedly attached fixture, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to use adhesive (e.g., two-sided adhesive tape or a mass of adhesive material) to affix the assembly, particularly plate 2, in the fixture to facilitate assembly of the die disclosed in Sarka. One having ordinary skill in the art would be very familiar with the use of such adhesive in the assembly arts and know that it is often

Art Unit: 3724

applied to assist in assembling of components; for example, such adhesive would be applied between the bottom plate 2 and the bottom 21 of the molding fixture to maintain the respective positions of the die components and the molding fixture during assembly, whereby after assembly, the die would be removed from the molding fixture and the adhesive removed. Beroz discloses one example of the use of such an adhesive to temporarily hold components in place during assembly (e.g., see Figs. 9, 10 and col. 7, lines 23-27; col. 15, lines 26-33). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to attach the covering to the metal base portion in Sarka for at least the benefits described above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims 17, 43, 44 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarka et al., pn 3,863,550 in view of Beroz et al., pn 6,543,131.

Sarka discloses an apparatus (e.g., in Fig. 11) with almost every structural limitation of the claimed invention but lacks the covering/housing/adapter being made of a material softer than the metal plate, specifically plastic. However, it is old and well known in the art that plastic provides various well known benefits including an inexpensive, light weight material that is easy to manufacture and handle. Further, it has been held that the selection of a known material on the basis of suitability for the intended use would be entirely obvious (see *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416 (CCPA 1960)). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to

Art Unit: 3724

make the molding fixture disclosed in Sarka from plastic to gain the well known benefits including those described above.

6. Claims 32 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarka et al., pn 3,863,550 in view of Beroz et al., pn 6,543,131.

Sarka discloses an apparatus (e.g., in Fig. 11) with almost every structural limitation of the claimed invention but lacks adhesive attaching the covering to the metal base portion. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to use adhesive (e.g., two-sided adhesive tape or a mass of adhesive material) to affix the assembly, particularly plate 2, in the fixture to facilitate assembly of the die disclosed in Sarka. One having ordinary skill in the art would be very familiar with the use of such adhesive in the assembly arts and know that it is often applied to assist in assembling of components; for example, such adhesive would be applied between the bottom plate 2 and the bottom 21 of the molding fixture to maintain the respective positions of the die components and the molding fixture during assembly, whereby after assembly, the die would be removed from the molding fixture and the adhesive removed. Beroz discloses one example of the use of such an adhesive to temporarily hold components in place during assembly (e.g., see Figs. 9, 10 and col. 7, lines 23-27; col. 15, lines 26-33). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to attach the covering to the metal base portion in Sarka for at least the benefits described above.

7. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarka et al., pn 3,863,550 in view of Johnson, pn 6,658,978.

Art Unit: 3724

Sarka discloses an apparatus (e.g., in Fig. 11) with almost every structural limitation of the claimed invention but lacks the at least one metal base portion and the blade being welded together. However, it is old and well known in the art to weld a blade to a metal base portion, particularly in die structures, as being one of many known ways to provide a secure connection therebetween. Welding provides various well known advantages; for example, it is relatively inexpensive and tooling to perform such tasks is readily available. Johnson (e.g., Fig. 4) provides one example of such welding. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to weld the at least one metal base portion and the blade being together for the well known benefits including those described above.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed April 23, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Examiner respectfully maintains the position that the prior art teaches or fairly suggests the claimed invention for at least the response previously argued.

Conclusion

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

* Art Unit: 3724


TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clark F. Dexter whose telephone number is (571)272-4505. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer D. Ashley can be reached on (571)272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

* Art Unit: 3724

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Clark F. Dexter
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3724

cf
January 8, 2007